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The spacious Reading Room has been surrounded by bookcases, in which are placed the books most likely to be frequently called for—a portion of those on general natural history, recent accessions, dictionaries and bibliography. With the exception of the cases for the temporary reception of new books, this is more a matter of furnishing than of library convenience, as no difficulty is experienced in securing any work desired from the stacks, which are sufficiently lighted by the windows in ordinarily fine weather, the electric lights provided in the aisles being required only on cloudy days and late in the afternoon.

A room on the stairway leading to the Lecture Hall has been appropriated for the storage of duplicates and of journals not immediately germane to the work of the Academy.

The rooms vacated by the Library, to the east of the Race street entrance, have, on the recommendation of the Council, been assigned for the use of the State Department of Health during the term of office of the present State Commissioner, the President of the Academy, and are now so occupied.

There has been no interruption of current work. Books have been ordered, received and catalogued, exchanges have been made and accessions displayed as usual on the Library tables for the use of those compiling bibliographies or desirous of keeping up their knowledge of the progress of science.

Acknowledgment is due the Assistant Librarian, William J. Fox, for most intelligent and efficient service in the moving of the books to the new building and of the stock of publications to the new storage cases, as well as for the faithful discharge of his current duties in connection with the Library and the Publication office.

We are indebted to the Free Library of Philadelphia for the loan of the trucks used in the transportation of the books to the new building.

It is believed that the portion of the year's work with which the Library Committee and the Librarian are charged may be regarded as a subject of warm congratulation.

EDWARD J. NOLAN,
Librarian.

REPORT OF THE CURATORS.

The additions and alterations to the Academy buildings, begun in the spring of 1908 under an appropriation of \$150,000 from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, have been completed.

The entrance from Race street has been remodeled and now presents

a commanding hallway which leads directly to the main Museum building, through the space formerly occupied by the old Lecture Hall.

The stairways in the main Museum building have been removed to the Nineteenth street entrance, from which a new vestibule has been constructed, shut off from the galleries of each floor by fire-walls and automatic fire-doors.

On the lot situated at Nineteenth and Cherry streets, 50 x 130 feet in size, has been erected a handsome fireproof building, now occupied by the Hall of the Academy, the Library stack and Reading Room.

The third floor, with the top floor of the main Museum building, have been divided into a number of study rooms and laboratories. All are reached by an electric elevator.

In the old Museum all the iron columns have been fireproofed and fire escapes provided to comply with the legal requirements.

New vaults for the storage of the alcoholic collections have been constructed and the collections transferred to them.

The increased room and accommodations now provided have long been needed for the protection and accommodation of the invaluable Library and Museum of the Academy and the collections of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the American Philosophical Society, deposited in its keeping.

At this year's session of the State Legislature an additional appropriation of \$60,000 was made to the Academy, with which it is proposed to encase the walls of the original greenstone building, which are becoming badly weathered, with brick and terra cotta, and to add such terra cotta facings to the middle wing as will make the entire building uniform in appearance.

The Museum, which had been closed to the public during the alterations, was reopened early in the year, and much of the time of the Museum staff has been devoted to the cleansing and rearrangement of the specimens.

A radical rearrangement has been effected on the mammal floor and many of the osteological specimens temporarily removed from exhibition.

All the water birds were removed while the cases were being cleansed and repainted and were then rearranged.

The immense series of jars containing the alcoholic collections have been thoroughly cleansed before being arranged in the new vaults.

Notwithstanding this unusual amount of routine work, considerable local field work was done by members of the Museum staff and several

more extended trips were made. Largely through the liberality of Mr. Morgan Hebard, Mr. Rehn was enabled to accompany him on a trip through the Western States, and a large collection of Orthoptera and some other specimens were secured.

Through the Esther Hermann Research Fund of the New York Academy of Sciences, Mr. Stewardson Brown was enabled to make another botanical exploration of Bermuda during May in the interests of the New York Botanic Garden and this Academy. Dr. J. P. Moore spent the summer collecting marine invertebrates at Martha's Vineyard and Woods Hole. Mr. Clarence B. Moore has continued his explorations of the Indian mounds of the Southern States, and has added many valuable specimens to the collection made by him since 1893. The Moore collection now contains over 5,000 specimens, all systematically arranged and labelled by Mr. Moore.

Among the more important accessions of the year may be mentioned the Clemens collection of Philippine birds, the Hinkley collection of Mexican mollusca, a collection of Brazilian insects made by Miss H. B. Merrill—all secured by purchase—and the Commons Herbarium, an unusually complete collection of the flora of Delaware, made by Mr. Albert Commons, and presented to the Academy by his nephews, Messrs. Frank W. and Howard W. Commons.

One mahogany and plate glass exhibition case has been added to the bird hall, and forty-three storage cases and 158 Schmidt insect boxes have been purchased.

In addition Dr. J. P. Moore has cared for the collection of annelids and Mr. H. W. Fowler the fishes, while Miss H. N. Wardle has arranged portions of the archæological specimens.

To Mr. Sam'l S. Van Pelt in the Herbarium and to Mr. E. T. Cresson, Jr., in the Entomological department the Curators are indebted for valuable assistance.

Specimens have been loaned during the year to A. S. Hitchcock, C. J. Pennock, Dr. Ludwig Neumayer, J. H. Fleming, F. C. Baker, Mary J. Rathbun, Robert Ridgway, Dr. Paul Bartsch, H. C. Oberholser, Merritt Cary and W. W. Eggleston.

SAMUEL G. DIXON,
Curator.

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MOLLUSCA.

Work during the past year has been chiefly directed to the preparation, determination and labelling of new material added to the collections, and to the preparation of an illustrated monograph on the

family *Partulidæ*, which has been published in the *MANUAL OF CONCHOLOGY*.

Very large accessions of the mollusca of Louisiana and southeastern Arkansas we owe to Mr. Clarence B. Moore. Mr. Stewardson Brown has further augmented the series from Bermuda, and the study of Arizona snails collected by J. H. Ferriss and the Curator has nearly reached completion; reports thereon are now in course of publication by the Academy.

The shells collected by Mr. A. A. Hinkley in Mexico have been determined, and the new forms described in several papers.

Mr. John B. Henderson, Jr., has contributed a series of Cuban shells collected this year, and Dr. Arnold Ortmann gave a set of western Pennsylvania freshwater mussels, especially valuable on account of the rapid destruction of the faunas of these streams by mine water. A large series of mollusks from Tonkin has been purchased, in order to afford material for comparison with those of China, Korea and Japan, which the Curator is working upon.

Accessions hardly less valuable have been received from many correspondents of the Department, as noted in the *Additions to the Museum*.

H. A. PILSBRY,
Special Curator, Dept. of Mollusca.

REPORTS OF SECTIONS.

BIOLOGICAL AND MICROSCOPICAL SECTION.

The Section has held nine regular meetings during the year, with an average attendance of nine members. Ten informal meetings have also been held.

The Conservator reports the donation of six boxes of slides from the estate of the late Dr. Henry C. Chapman.

The work of the year consisted chiefly in the exhibition and description of mounted slides and material by each member present, and in the exchange of specimens for mounting, among which may be mentioned a valuable series of about seventy rare minerals in microscopic crystals distributed by Mr. Keeley.

Among the papers presented are the following: "Microscopical Image Formation," by Mr. F. J. Keeley, published in the *PROCEEDINGS*; "The Hookworm Disease," by Dr. T. S. Stewart.

Mr. Palmer described a new form of *Pinnularia* which he has named *Pinnularia socialis*, found in groups of four.